

an indelibly positive impact on the Delta community and inspired those around him. He was a dear friend for whom I have the deepest respect and admiration. He will be deeply missed as Patti and I send our condolences to Joan and the Cortopassi family.

HONORING DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER JONATHAN MARSHALL FOR 34 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CABARRUS COUNTY

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 25, 2022*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jonathan Marshall for 34 years of service to Cabarrus County, including a decade of service as Deputy County Manager. I have seen his extraordinary leadership firsthand and how much he means to our community.

Mr. Marshall began his career with Cabarrus County in 1988 as a land-use planner and retires after more than three decades of service. Exemplary in his innate understanding of the relationship between people and land, he held the positions of Senior Planner, Planning Services Director, and Commerce Director before being named Deputy County Manager in December 2011.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Marshall has exhibited exceptional commitment and dedication to improving our community. He has led Cabarrus County through a time of unprecedented growth and his work will be felt for generations to come. Mr. Marshall's early efforts on the western area plan, for example, helped to sustain economic growth resulting from land development around Charlotte Motor Speedway and Concord Mills. He has also fostered a unique culture of collaboration between community stakeholders, and relationships between the County and municipalities have flourished under his extraordinary leadership.

I would like to extend my most heartfelt appreciation to Mr. Marshall for his years of exemplary service to Cabarrus County. I know I speak for our entire community in wishing he and his wife Debbie continued success and happiness as they move on to their next great adventure.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Jonathan Marshall upon his retirement as Deputy County Manager of Cabarrus County.

HONORING REV. DR. MELVIN T. JONES

**HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 25, 2022*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Doctor Melvin T. Jones as the dedicated Senior Pastor of the Union Missionary Baptist Church in Lansing, Michigan. He has stood at the forefront of fighting for justice since he was a child, and continues to do so throughout the Greater Lansing community today. He is a living testimony of using one's life to serve others.

At 78 years old, Pastor Jones is a model and inspiration for generations of citizens and faith leaders in our community. He has served at Union Missionary Baptist Church for 37 years, and is often referred to as "The Patriarch," because nothing happens in the Lansing community without seeking his wisdom, guidance, and support.

Every community has a guiding light, that someone who serves as the force to bring others together to drive change, and in the Lansing faith community, that someone is Pastor Melvin T. Jones. More than a decade ago, he became founder and Chairman of GLADE, currently known as ACTION of Greater Lansing, an interdenominational justice ministry of churches. Pastor Jones has served as President of The Greater Lansing Clergy Forum, Co-President of ACTION of Greater Lansing, and most recently helped shape the Assembly of Lansing Pastors to address gun violence.

He has received numerous awards and honors, both civic and national including an Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Dallas Baptist Christian College, and he is currently completing a Doctor of Ministry degree program at Ashland Theological Seminary.

Pastor Jones has accomplished all of this while still devoting himself to his family: his wife Sallie of more than 50 years, and their five grown children.

As Pastor Jones prepares for retirement, he will be remembered for his faithful leadership that positively changed the direction of the city and impacted individuals and families for the better. He will be known for the inspiration and love he brought to Lansing, but also for the many pastoral leaders he mentored over many decades.

I have no doubt that even after retirement he will continue to be a voice for Lansing, and a strong supporter for those in need. While we will miss his voice in the house of worship, it is my great honor to record his many good works in so that they may live forever.

CELEBRATING WHITE OAK LIBRARY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 25, 2022*

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The White Oak Library on 100 years of service to the community.

In 1922, the Lockport Woman's Club began a volunteer library and led a seven-year fight to solidify the library as a mainstay in the community. The library has persevered, putting the needs of the people first, changing locations and selling land to mirror the ever changing community landscape. A couple of location and name changes later, the Lockport Women's Club's vision has surpassed their initial dreams, with not one, but three libraries serving the greater Crest Hill, Lockport, and Romeoville communities.

The White Oak Library's mission is to be a community anchor while balancing innovation and tradition. The library leaders and staff have tirelessly met this mission with offerings ranging from Citizenship Prep and English-Second Language classes, STEM Fest, Grandparents Day, and various children, teen and adult programming. The thoughtful and

far-reaching goals of the White Oak Library are met every day.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the communities White Oak Library serves, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this milestone with best wishes for many more to come.

CONGRATULATING DR. NORIS PRICE

**HON. JODY B. HICE**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 25, 2022*

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Baldwin County Schools Superintendent Dr. Noris Price for being named the Georgia 2022 Superintendent of the Year.

Dr. Price has more than 35 years of experience in public education. She has served as an Associate Superintendent for Clarke County Schools, a Principle in Fairfax, Virginia, and as an elementary school teacher in New York City.

Dr. Price was selected by the Georgia School Superintendents Association for her leadership ability, communication skills, and unwavering dedication to education.

During her tenure in Baldwin County, Dr. Price made tremendous strides to increase the high school graduation rate from 66 percent to 90 percent. She is also responsible for securing more than \$ eight million in grants for Baldwin County Schools.

This year brings additional recognition for Dr. Price's success and dedication as she was named a top four finalist for the 2022 U.S. National Superintendent of the Year award. These educators represent the bold and innovative work that is needed to ensure student success in communities across the country.

I am proud of Dr. Price's dedication to the future generation of Georgia's 10th Congressional District, and I wish her continued success.

HONORING THELMA LETT

**HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 25, 2022*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share the story of a courageous Black woman from Brighton who would not sit down when faced with racism, hatred, and bigotry.

Thelma Lett did not grow up in Livingston County, but moved there from Detroit in 1976 with her husband. She was an avid churchgoer and involved in many community organizations, as she and her husband raised their two children, Paul and Keith.

But it was her involvement with the Livingston Diversity Council, then known as Livingston 2001, that drew headlines and propelled this quiet woman into the local spotlight.

Eager to champion the cause of diversity in the mostly white county, she joined the organization in 1988, its founding year—the same year a cross was burned on the property of a Black family in the county. She's credited with helping to grow the group and support for the cause with her dynamic, can-do style.